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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/757,952	01/15/2004	Anthony Patti	96986-00001	5082

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EXAMINER

HAN, JASON

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 01/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/757,952	Applicant(s) PATTI, ANTHONY	
	Examiner Jason M Han	Art Unit 2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/11/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.
2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. Page 11, Lines 11-13: the wires "40", "50", "42", and "52" are shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 – please delete the parentheses and text therein;
 - b. Page 19, Lines 8-9: the wires "140", "150", "142", and "152" are shown in FIGS. 6 and 7 – please delete the parentheses and text therein;Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 12 recites the limitation "said base" in line 1 of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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4. Claims 1-2 and 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090).

5. With regards to Claim 1, Nau discloses a ground supported lamp for a masonry structure [see Abstract] including:

- a support [Figure 1: (12)] having first [Figure 1: (50)] and second [Figure 1: (32)] ends opposite of one another that define an internal cavity;
- whereby the support member has a size and shape similar to an aperture [Figure 1: (52)] of the masonry structure;
- an electrical socket [Figure 1: (16)] removably received within the cavity of the support member; and
- a modular light assembly [Figure 1: (14)], having a light source [Figure 1: (26)], removably mounted to and substantially covering the first end of the support member;
- whereby the modular light assembly is releasably connected [Figure 1: (22, 24)] to the socket such that the socket is removed from the cavity of the support when the modular light assembly is removed from the first end of the support member, thus allowing the modular light assembly to be disconnected from the socket for the purpose of repair or replacement externally of the masonry structure [Column 2, Lines 1-5; Column 2, Line 63 – Column 3, Line 9].

6. With regards to Claim 2, Nau discloses at least one electrical wire [Figure 1: (28)] having first and second ends opposite of one another, whereby the first end is

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electrically connected to the socket and the second end is electrically connected to an external power source, and wherein the wires being adapted or are of a predetermined length to allow the socket to be removed from the cavity of the support member of the modular light assembly when removed from the first end of the support member [Column 3, Lines 10-14].

7. With regards to Claim 4, Nau discloses the modular light assembly including a shielding means [Figure 1: (18)] for the light source.

8. With regards to Claim 5, Nau discloses the shielding means including a lens cap [Figure 1: (18)].

9. Claims 11-12, 14-15, 18, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090).

10. With regards to Claim 11, Nau discloses a ground supported lamp including:

- a masonry structure [Figure 1: (66)] having an exterior surface and an interior surface opposite the exterior surface, and a aperture [Figure 1: between (52)] formed within the exterior surface;
- a light fixture with a support member [Figure 1: (12)] having first [Figure 1: (50)] and second [Figure 1: (32)] ends opposite of one another that define an internal cavity;
- whereby the support member has a size and shape similar to an aperture [Figure 1: (52)] of the masonry structure such that the first end of the support member is proximate to the exterior surface of the masonry structure;

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- an electrical socket [Figure 1: (16)] removably received within the cavity of the support member; and
- a modular light assembly [Figure 1: (14)], having a light source [Figure 1: (26)], removably mounted to and substantially covering the first end of the support member;
- whereby the modular light assembly is releasably connected [Figure 1: (22, 24)] to the socket such that the socket is removed from the cavity of the support when the modular light assembly is removed from the first end of the support member, thus allowing the modular light assembly to be disconnected from the socket for the purpose of repair or replacement externally of the masonry structure [Column 2, Lines 1-5; Column 2, Line 63 – Column 3, Line 9].

11. With regards to Claim 12, Nau discloses at least one electrical wire [Figure 1: (28)] having first and second ends opposite of one another, whereby the first end is electrically connected to the socket and the second end is electrically connected to an external power source, and wherein the wires being adapted or are of a predetermined length to allow the socket to be removed from the cavity of the support member of the modular light assembly when removed from the first end of the support member [Column 3, Lines 10-14].

12. With regards to Claim 14, Nau discloses the modular light assembly including a shielding means [Figure 1: (18)] for the light source.

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13. With regards to Claim 15, Nau discloses the shielding means including a lens cap [Figure 1: (18)].

14. With regards to Claim 18, Nau discloses the aperture [Figure 1: (52)] of the masonry structure extending from the exterior surface [Figure 1: top of (66)] to the interior surface [Figure 1: bottom of (66)] of the masonry structure.

15. With regards to Claim 26, Nau discloses the masonry structure [Figure 1: (66)] being a paver block [Figure 4; Column 4, Lines 46-48].

16. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090).

Nau discloses a ground supported lamp providing:

- a masonry structure [Figure 1: (66)] having an exterior surface and an interior surface opposite the exterior surface, and a aperture [Figure 1: between (52)] formed within the exterior surface;
- a light fixture with a support member [Figure 1: (12)] having first [Figure 1: (50)] and second [Figure 1: (32)] ends opposite of one another that define an internal cavity;
- whereby the support member has a size and shape similar to an aperture [Figure 1: (52)] of the masonry structure such that the first end of the support member is proximate to the exterior surface of the masonry structure;
- a modular light assembly [Figure 1: (14)], having a light source [Figure 1: (26)], removably mounted to and substantially covering the first end of the support member; and

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- an electrical connection [Figure 1: (28)] within the cavity of the support member for electrically connecting the modular light assembly to an external power source [Column 3, Lines 10-14].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

17. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 2 above, and further in view of Glover (U.S. Patent 3824524).

Nau discloses the claimed invention as claimed above, but does not specifically teach the modular light assembly including a connector for electrically connecting the modular light assembly to the socket.

Glover teaches an electrical connector assembly for facilitating electrical communication [Figures 1-7].

It would have been obvious to modify the modular light assembly of Nau to incorporate the electrical connector assembly of Glover to facilitate easy electrical connection and safety to a user.

18. Claims 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 5 above, and further in view of Rizkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6565239).

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Nau discloses the claimed invention as cited above, but does not specifically teach the light source of the modular light assembly including an incandescent bulb (re: Claim 6) or a light emitting diode (re: Claim 7).

Rizkin teaches, "Those skilled in the art generally know that conventional light sources, such as incandescent lamps and a vast assortment of other so-called 'standard' light sources, frequently possess a relative luminous intensity output characteristic as is depicted in profile by curve 1, shown in dashed-and-dotted line. We refer to such a luminous intensity profile as a "main beam" which produces a light output that is generally equally distributed about a central angular displacement region. Certain commercially-available light emitting diodes, however, may possess a luminous intensity output characteristic with the light output peaking at about +/- 40 degrees relative to zero degrees angular displacement at the center of the region (optical axis) [Column 7, Lines 25-38; underlines added by examiner for emphasis]."

It would have been obvious to modify the modular light assembly of Nau to incorporate either the incandescent lamp or light emitting diodes of Rizkin to ensure proper illumination for the system. Such a limitation is considered an obvious matter of design preference, whereby both sources are commonly known within the art.

19. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of applicant's admitted prior art.

Nau discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Nau teaches, "A flexible, e.g. rubber, seal or gasket 46 is disposed in the space 48 between shoulder 42

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and lug 44, and extending upwardly in the space 48' between the upper end 50 of the bulb housing 14 and the adjacent upper side wall 52 of the case 12. The seal or gasket 46 is preferably of a soft resilient plastic or rubber which stretches around the upper end or top 50 of the bulb housing 14 and serves to align the lens 18 on the case and to prevent passage of debris into the interior 54 of the case. The seal 46 also prevents any significant amount of water from entering the interior of case 54 [Column 3, Lines 28-38].” Nau does not specifically teach the seal 48 being an adhesive.

Applicant's admitted prior art teaches, “The adhesive 38 may be, but is not limited to, materials commonly known in the art as “electricians putty” or “pavement adhesive”, which, while providing a flexible watertight seal, may be removed if necessary [Page 8, Lines 23-25; underline added by examiner].”

It would have been obvious to modify the seal of Nau to incorporate the “electricians putty” or “pavement adhesive” of applicant's admitted prior art to ensure a flexible, removable, and watertight seal for the light assembly.

20. Claims 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of Ponton et al. (U.S. Patent 5924790).

Nau discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Nau teaches, “When it is desired to remove the bulb housing 14 and its associated components including side supports 34 and lens 18 from the interior of the case, e.g. for replacement of an electric bulb and/or cleaning of the interior of the case, this can be achieved by insertion of a suitable instrument such as a screwdriver into one or both of the slots 60,

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and urging the unit 14 and its associated components upwardly so as to disengage the tabs 38 on side supports 34 from their locked or cammed position in grooves 40 and permit removal of the bulb housing and the lens from the case. During such upward movement, the seal 46 is also removed [Column 4, Lines 1-13; underline added by examiner].” Nau does not specifically teach the support member including a mounting bracket mounted to the first end of the support member (re: Claim 9) and adapted to receive a cam lock on the modular light assembly (re: Claim 10).

Ponton teaches, “The mounting bracket of the present invention includes at least one respective flexible tongue which may be used for engagement with each locking lug of the cup-shaped body of the lamp housing. For example, in the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 3, the second portion 72 of the mounting bracket 14 includes a first flexible tongue 82 constructed and arranged for engagement with the locking lug 26 and a second flexible tongue 84 constructed and arranged for engagement with the locking lug 28. The first flexible tongue 82 and the second flexible tongue 84 comprise respective first lug engaging surfaces 86, 88 and second lug engaging surfaces 90, 92. The first flexible tongue 82 and the second flexible tongue 84 are spaced from each other and extend in the direction 46 and axis 24 towards the first portion 68. Positioned between, and parallel to tongues 82 and 84 are ribs 87, and 89. Extending perpendicular to axial ribs 87 and 89 near the bases of tongues 82 and 84 are cross ribs 91 and 93. Axial ribs 87 and 89 extend for the lengths of tongues 82 and 84, and cross ribs 91 and 93 extend to intersect the base regions of tongues 82 and 84. An additional cross rib 95 runs between stepped portions 74 and 76. Axial ribs 87 and 89 resist

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flexing of portion 72 in the region along the length of tongues 82 and 84. Similarly, cross ribs 91, 93 and 95 resist twisting of portion 72 in the region of tongues 82 and 84. By resisting flexing and twisting in the region of tongues 82 and 84, portion 72 resists dynamic actions that might lift tongues 82 and 84 from securely latching camming surfaces 30, 32 and locking surfaces 34, 36. The relative interior location of the ribs hides them from view, letting the visual edges be reduced in thickness [Column 3, Line 51 – Column 4, Line 14].”

It would have been obvious to modify the support member and modular light assembly of Nau to incorporate the mounting bracket with cam lock mechanism of Ponton to ensure an easy installment/removal of the light assembly from the support member/case.

21. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 12 above, and further in view of Glover (U.S. Patent 3824524).

Nau discloses the claimed invention as claimed above, but does not specifically teach the modular light assembly including a connector for electrically connecting the modular light assembly to the socket.

Glover teaches an electrical connector assembly for facilitating electrical communication [Figures 1-7].

It would have been obvious to modify the modular light assembly of Nau to incorporate the electrical connector assembly of Glover to facilitate easy electrical connection and safety to a user.

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22. Claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 15 above, and further in view of Rizkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6565239).

Nau discloses the claimed invention as cited above, but does not specifically teach the light source of the modular light assembly including an incandescent bulb (re: Claim 16) or a light emitting diode (re: Claim 17).

Rizkin teaches, "Those skilled in the art generally know that conventional light sources, such as incandescent lamps and a vast assortment of other so-called 'standard' light sources, frequently possess a relative luminous intensity output characteristic as is depicted in profile by curve 1, shown in dashed-and-dotted line. We refer to such a luminous intensity profile as a "main beam" which produces a light output that is generally equally distributed about a central angular displacement region. Certain commercially-available light emitting diodes, however, may possess a luminous intensity output characteristic with the light output peaking at about +/- 40 degrees relative to zero degrees angular displacement at the center of the region (optical axis) [Column 7, Lines 25-38; underlines added by examiner for emphasis]."

It would have been obvious to modify the modular light assembly of Nau to incorporate either the incandescent lamp or light emitting diodes of Rizkin to ensure proper illumination for the system. Such a limitation is considered an obvious matter of design preference, whereby both sources are commonly known within the art.

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23. Claims 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 18 above, and further in view of Copeland (U.S. Patent 4697950).

24. With regards to Claim 19, Nau discloses the claimed invention as cited above, but does not specifically teach the aperture of the masonry structure having a cylindrical shape with a substantially constant diameter from the exterior surface to the interior surface of the masonry structure.

Copeland teaches a ground [Figures 1-6: (12)] having an aperture of a cylindrical shape with a substantially constant diameter from an exterior to an interior surface so as to accommodate an illuminating stepping pad.

It would have been obvious to modify the masonry structure of Nau to incorporate the cylindrical shaped aperture of Copeland in order to provide an aesthetic appeal to the structure. Such a configuration is also an obvious matter of design since it has been held that mere changes in shape would be obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art. *In re Dailey*, 149 USPQ 47 (CCPA 1966).

25. With regards to Claim 20, Nau in view of Copeland discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Copeland teaches inhibiting means [Figure 4: (26, 27)] positioned proximate an aperture [Figure 4: internal cavity where the light source (14) is disposed] at an interior surface [Figure 4: bottom of (31)], so as to inhibit a support member [Figure 4: (31)] from exiting the aperture at the interior surface.

26. With regards to Claim 21, Nau in view of Copeland discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Copeland teaches the inhibiting means [Figure 4:

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(26, 27)] including a substantially flat plate [Figure 4: (26, 27)], whereby the plate substantially obstructs the aperture, and where the end of the support member [Figure 4: (31)] engages the plate.

27. With regards to Claim 22, Nau in view of Copeland discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Nau teaches the lens cap [Figure 1: (18)] being positioned substantially flush to the exterior surface of the masonry structure [Figure 1: (66)].

28. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 11 above, and further in view of applicant's admitted prior art.

Nau discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Nau teaches, "A flexible, e.g. rubber, seal or gasket 46 is disposed in the space 48 between shoulder 42 and lug 44, and extending upwardly in the space 48' between the upper end 50 of the bulb housing 14 and the adjacent upper side wall 52 of the case 12. The seal or gasket 46 is preferably of a soft resilient plastic or rubber which stretches around the upper end or top 50 of the bulb housing 14 and serves to align the lens 18 on the case and to prevent passage of debris into the interior 54 of the case. The seal 46 also prevents any significant amount of water from entering the interior of case 54 [Column 3, Lines 28-38]." Nau does not specifically teach the seal 48 being an adhesive.

Applicant's admitted prior art teaches, "The adhesive 38 may be, but is not limited to, materials commonly known in the art as "electricians putty" or "pavement

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adhesive", which, while providing a flexible watertight seal, may be removed if necessary [Page 8, Lines 23-25; underline added by examiner]."

It would have been obvious to modify the seal of Nau to incorporate the "electricians putty" or "pavement adhesive" of applicant's admitted prior art to ensure a flexible, removable, and watertight seal for the light assembly.

29. Claims 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nau (U.S. Patent 5390090) as applied to Claim 11 above, and further in view of Ponton et al. (U.S. Patent 5924790).

Nau discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Nau teaches, "When it is desired to remove the bulb housing 14 and its associated components including side supports 34 and lens 18 from the interior of the case, e.g. for replacement of an electric bulb and/or cleaning of the interior of the case, this can be achieved by insertion of a suitable instrument such as a screwdriver into one or both of the slots 60, and urging the unit 14 and its associated components upwardly so as to disengage the tabs 38 on side supports 34 from their locked or cammed position in grooves 40 and permit removal of the bulb housing and the lens from the case. During such upward movement, the seal 46 is also removed [Column 4, Lines 1-13; underline added by examiner]." Nau does not specifically teach the support member including a mounting bracket mounted to the first end of the support member (re: Claim 9) and adapted to receive a cam lock on the modular light assembly (re: Claim 10).

Ponton teaches, "The mounting bracket of the present invention includes at least one respective flexible tongue which may be used for engagement with each locking lug

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of the cup-shaped body of the lamp housing. For example, in the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 3, the second portion 72 of the mounting bracket 14 includes a first flexible tongue 82 constructed and arranged for engagement with the locking lug 26 and a second flexible tongue 84 constructed and arranged for engagement with the locking lug 28. The first flexible tongue 82 and the second flexible tongue 84 comprise respective first lug engaging surfaces 86, 88 and second lug engaging surfaces 90, 92. The first flexible tongue 82 and the second flexible tongue 84 are spaced from each other and extend in the direction 46 and axis 24 towards the first portion 68. Positioned between, and parallel to tongues 82 and 84 are ribs 87, and 89. Extending perpendicular to axial ribs 87 and 89 near the bases of tongues 82 and 84 are cross ribs 91 and 93. Axial ribs 87 and 89 extend for the lengths of tongues 82 and 84, and cross ribs 91 and 93 extend to intersect the base regions of tongues 82 and 84. An additional cross rib 95 runs between stepped portions 74 and 76. Axial ribs 87 and 89 resist flexing of portion 72 in the region along the length of tongues 82 and 84. Similarly, cross ribs 91, 93 and 95 resist twisting of portion 72 in the region of tongues 82 and 84. By resisting flexing and twisting in the region of tongues 82 and 84, portion 72 resists dynamic actions that might lift tongues 82 and 84 from securely latching camming surfaces 30, 32 and locking surfaces 34, 36. The relative interior location of the ribs hides them from view, letting the visual edges be reduced in thickness [Column 3, Line 51 – Column 4, Line 14].”

It would have been obvious to modify the support member and modular light assembly of Nau to incorporate the mounting bracket with cam lock mechanism of

Ponton to ensure an easy installment/removal of the light assembly from the support member/case.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following references have been cited to further show the state of the art pertinent to the current application, but are not considered exhaustive:

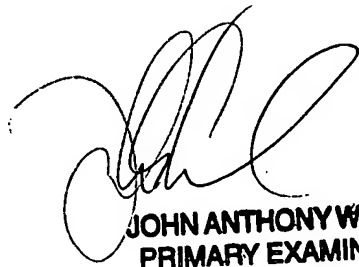
US Patent 1853321 to Rogers;	US Patent 2038506 to Cadieux;
US Patent 3007034 to Reed et al;	US Patent 4223377 to Williams;
US Patent 4382274 to De Backer;	US Patent 4396972 to Kaneko et al;
US Patent 4635167 to Schlosser;	US Patent 4779324 to Sandor, Sr.;
US Patent 4912610 to Dahlberg;	US Patent 4931915 to Quioque;
US Patent 4974134 to Bourne;	US Patent 4992914 to Heiss et al;
US Patent 5029054 to Trainor;	US Patent 5156454 to White;
US Patent 5160202 to Legare;	US Patent 5335151 to Dahlberg;
US Patent 5481443 to Wagner et al;	US Patent 5678920 to Kerr;
US Patent 5683170 to Blaha;	US Patent 5743622 to Ibbitson et al;
US Patent 5779349 to Druffel et al;	US Patent 5779349 to Reinert, Sr.;
US Patent 5908263 to Conners et al;	US Patent 5943827 to Okerlund;
US Patent 6027280 to Conners et al;	US Patent 6065853 to Crevier;
US Patent 6179435 to Wilson;	US Patent 6334695 to Abe et al;
US Publication 2003/0048634 to You et al;	US Patent 6547589 to Magyar et al;
US Publication 2003/0156405 to Kim;	US Patent 6648546 to Abe et al;
US Patent 6665986 to Kaplan;	US Publication 2004/0252489 to Hagen.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M Han whose telephone number is (571) 272-2207. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JMH (1/3/2005)



JOHN ANTHONY WARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER